

## HOUSE BILL NO. 175

INTRODUCED BY L. JENT

BY REQUEST OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT ALLOWING DISCLOSURE OF CONFIDENTIAL HEALTH CARE INFORMATION WITHOUT A PATIENT'S AUTHORIZATION TO THE STATE MEDICAL EXAMINER OR COUNTY CORONER FOR THE PURPOSE OF DETERMINING A CAUSE OF DEATH; AND AMENDING SECTION 50-16-530, MCA."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

**Section 1.** Section 50-16-530, MCA, is amended to read:

**"50-16-530. Disclosure without patient's authorization -- other bases.** A health care provider may disclose health care information about a patient without the patient's authorization if the disclosure is:

(1) directory information, unless the patient has instructed the health care provider not to make the disclosure;

(2) to federal, state, or local public health authorities, to the extent the health care provider is required by law to report health care information or when needed to protect the public health;

(3) to federal, state, or local law enforcement authorities to the extent required by law;

(4) to a law enforcement officer about the general physical condition of a patient being treated in a health care facility if the patient was injured on a public roadway or was injured by the possible criminal act of another;

(5) in response to a request of the division of crime control for information under 53-9-104(2)(b);

(6) pursuant to compulsory process in accordance with 50-16-535 and 50-16-536; ~~or~~

(7) pursuant to 50-16-712; or

(8) to the state medical examiner or a county coroner for use in determining cause of death. The information is required to be held confidential as provided by law."

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